AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 Cancelled

6. (Previously presented) A nozzle adapted for mounting on the discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising: a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, said channel being associated with a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel being associated with a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area, the reduction in cross-sectional area being substantially caused by a change in the shape of the channel in an upper portion of the nozzle body, such that air velocity through an upper region of the channel is greater than the air velocity through a lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

7. (Original) The nozzle of claim 6 wherein said second cross-sectional area is approximately 50% to 75% of said first cross-sectional area.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) In combination, a blower for generating a flow of air, said blower having a discharge chute, and a nozzle, said nozzle being adapted for mounting on the discharge chute, wherein the airflow through said discharge chute generally has a greater velocity in a lower region than in an upper region, wherein the combination comprises: said discharge chute having a generally planar lower interior surface; and, said nozzle having a nozzle

body having an upper wall, a lower wall, and spaced side walls defining a channel being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said lower wall having an interior surface being generally aligned with said lower interior surface of said discharge chute and said nozzle body being shaped to provide a nozzle restriction in an upper region of said nozzle body such that the air velocity in the upper region is greater than the air velocity in a lower region of the nozzle at the outlet end.

11. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein: said channel is associated with a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel is associated with a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area.

12. (Original) The combination of claim 11 wherein: said second cross-sectional area is approximately 50% to 75% of said first cross-sectional area.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) The nozzle of claim 6 wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel at the outlet end is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel at the outlet end thereby forming a restriction in the upper end, the change in channel shape causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity at the outlet end in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 10 wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

18. (Previously presented) A nozzle adapted for mounting on a discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

19. (Previously presented) The nozzle of claim 18 wherein said channel has a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel has a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area, the reduction in cross-sectional area being substantially caused by a change in the shape of the channel between the inlet and outlet ends.

20. (Previously presented) The nozzle of claim 18 wherein the shape of the nozzle at the inlet end is substantially the same as the shape of the discharge chute such that the nozzle is mountable on the discharge chute.

21. (Cancelled)